

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 82-39

AMENDING

ORDER NO. 79-164

NPDES NO. CA0037834

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

CITY OF PALO ALTO
SANTA CLARA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, (hereinafter called the Board) finds that:

1. On December 18, 1979, the Board adopted Order No 79-164 prescribing waste discharge requirements for the City of Palo Alto (hereinafter discharer)
2. The requirements contained in Order No. 79-164 provide, in part as follows:

B. Effluent Limitations:

* * *

4. Representative samples of the effluent shall not exceed the following limits more than the percentage of time indicated: (a)

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Unit of Measurement</u>	<u>50% of time</u>	<u>10% of time</u>
* * *			
Total Chromium	mg/l (kg/day)	0.005 (0.662)	0.01 (1.324)
* * *			

- (a) These limits are intended to be achieved through secondary treatment, source control and application of pretreatment standards.

* * *

6. At some point in the treatment process, the waste shall not exceed a median MPN of Coliform organisms of 2.2/100 ml as determined from the results of the previous consecutive seven (7) days for which analyses have been completed.
3. The discharger is undergoing a five year water quality study and biological monitoring program pursuant to Enforcement Order No. 81-13.

4. The Basin Plan requirements for total coliform are:

"No waste discharge, wherein effluent volumes comprise 10 percent or more of the receiving water volume (exclusive of previously discharged effluent) at a point of access shall exceed a most probable number of coliform organisms of 2.2 per 100 ml."

The Basin Plan total coliform requirement was adopted to protect public health in connection with water-contact sports. The State Department of Health Service, by letter of April 5, 1982 in response to Board staff request, found that a relaxing of the effluent standard from the 2.2 MPN/100 ml to 23 MPN/100ml will not pose a threat to the public health since the areas of discharge are isolated with no significant public contact. The Board concurs that beneficial uses will still be protected at this less stringent total coliform limit at the discharge location.

5. The discharger operates a tertiary treatment plant, which, if adequately operated and maintained, can meet Board's waste discharge requirements.
6. On January 6, 1982, the Board's Executive Officer recommended approval of the discharger's Industrial Waste Ordinance and Pretreatment Program to the Environmental Protection Agency. The program contains pretreatment standards for total chromium.
7. Relaxing the 50% of time total chromium limit to 0.01 mg/l should cause only minimal impact on water quality and should not affect beneficial uses of the receiving water. Data from the past years' effluent indicates there was no acute toxicity violation due to total chromium and the 0.01 mg/l total chromium is achievable with the current tertiary treatment facilities and source control program.

The Board may consider further amendment of the total chromium at some future time based upon the results of the South Bay Dischargers' 5-year monitoring program in progress or other toxicity information not presently available.

8. The Board's Order No. 79-164 incorrectly prohibited dry weather flows to 35.0 mgd. The correct dry weather flow limit should be 30.6 mgd.
9. The amendment of waste discharge requirements for this discharge is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21000) of Division 13 of Public Resources Code (CEQA) in accordance with Water Code Section 13389.

10. The Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge, and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.

11. The Board in a public meeting heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Order No. 79-164's' Discharge Prohibitions, Effluent Limitation for Total Chromium and Total Coliform and receiving Water pH Limitations are amended as follows:

"A. Prohibitions:

. . .

3. The average dry weather flow shall not exceed 30.6 mgd. Average flow shall be determined over three consecutive months per year.

. . .

B. Effluent Limitations

. . .

4. Representative samples of the effluent shall not exceed the following limits more than the percentage of time indicated:^(a)

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Unit of Measurement</u>	<u>6 month median</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>
.		
Total Chromium	mg/l	0.01	0.02
.		

(a) These limits are intended to be achieved through secondary treatment, source control and application of pretreatment standards.

. . .

8. At some point in the treatment process, the waste shall not exceed a median MPN of coliform organisms of 23/100 ml. nor a maximum of 500/100 ml as determined from the results of the previous consecutive five(5) days for which analysis have been completed.

. . .

C. Receiving Water Limitations

. . .

- c. pH Variations from natural, ambient pH by more than 0.2 pH units.
The variation shall be increased to 0.5 pH units if the Basin
Plan revision is approved by the Regional and State Boards."

I, Fred H. Dierker, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing
is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region,
on June 16, 1982.

Fred H. Dierker
Executive Officer